of the Fifth Central Pay Commission's Report, as reported in 'The Hindustan Times' dated the 28th June, 1997;

(b) if so, what are the demands of the A.I.P.T. AND A.I.S.T.F. and whether President of A.I.S.T.F. has charged the centre with 'deliberately' opening up the education sector to the private sector under pressure from the World Bank; and

(c) what is the reaction of the Central Government to the above demands of the All India Teachers' Unions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) A news item in the Hindustan Times dated 28 June, 1997 referred to teachers' stir threat to press their charter of demands. However, no memorandum has been received by the Government warning of any agitation in this regard.

(b) A meeting with the representatives of All India Primary Teachers Federation was held on 26-6-1997 in which the federation submitted a list of problems and demands which interalia referred to indirect privatisation of education. The representatives were informed that there was no such move on the part of the Government. Further there was no conditionality of opening up Education to Private Sector under the project agreement for District Primary Education Programme.

(c) Most of the suggestions given by the All India Primary Teachers Federation on various matters have been kept in view by the Working Group constituted by the Planning Commisssion while formulating proposals for the Ninth Five-Year Plan. A number of suggestions are within the purview of the State Governments.

UGC warning regarding self-styled universities

389. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UGC has recently warned students not to join higher education courses in self styled Universities or Institutes;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take steps to wind up such self styled Universities or Institutes to protect the rights of students; and

(c) if so, the detils thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) University Grants Commission, from time to time, issues warnings to the Public at large, against activities of the fake/self styled universities cautioning them against enrolling in such institutions. Penal provision of fine exists for running such institutions. There are, however, no provisions for winding up such institutions these do not exist in the eyes of law.

As part of an exercise to amend the UGC Act to make it more effective, Government is considering to enhance existing penalties and to provide for rigorous imprisonment to those found running such institutions.

High drop out rate in professional courses

390. SHRI AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over 60% of students who enrol for the science courses in Delhi University drop out in